

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

September 30, 2020

John T Stankey
President & CEO
AT&T Inc.
208 South Akard Street
Dallas, TX 75202

Dear Mr. Stankey:

I am writing on behalf of my constituents in Dallas and Ft. Worth, TX who have expressed concerns about the ongoing job cuts at AT&T. I fear those cuts jeopardize our nation's ability to recover economically from the COVID-19 pandemic. I urge you to take the necessary steps to protect the many quality AT&T jobs rather than moving the work and those jobs to contractors, authorized retail stores, and offshore customer service centers. It is my hope that a strong U.S. company like AT&T will take every possible step to ensure that our country is able to build back better and stronger from this pandemic.

I know that AT&T benefited greatly from the federal tax cuts passed by Congress and signed by President Trump in 2017. AT&T was one of the strongest advocates for those corporate tax cuts, even stating that at least 7,000 new jobs would be created by AT&T for every \$1 billion in tax savings. Instead, I've been disappointed to learn that since AT&T saw its tax burden slashed, leading to an immediate \$21 billion windfall in profits, you have instead cut approximately 40,000 U.S. jobs. This is the latest example of how AT&T's workforce sadly has not shared in that financial windfall.

AT&T once bragged about being one of the largest unionized employers in the country. Indeed, that was something to be proud of as the good wages and stable benefits negotiated between the union and your company helped create a robust economy and middle class. Unfortunately, it now appears that AT&T is attempting to roll that back as, by your company's own admission, only 40 percent of AT&T's employees are covered by union collective bargaining agreements.

AT&T appears to have shifted the work and those good jobs to contractors with lower wages and few, if any, benefits. AT&T has also eliminated union jobs at company-owned retail stores while relying on a network of non-union authorized retailers and sent customer service work to outsourcing companies both domestically and overseas where contractors abuse low wage workers.

This model will not help our economy recover from the devastating impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Instead, your actions are digging our economy into a deeper hole by ensuring that fewer workers have reliable wages and benefits guaranteed by collective bargaining agreements.

I urge AT&T to take a strong stand and make it clear that you will lead in our nation's recovery by:

1. Suspending cuts to technician jobs so long as any work is contracted out.
2. Suspending cuts to call center jobs so long as any work is offshored or contracted out.
3. Suspending cuts to retail jobs so long as the company utilizes authorized dealers.
4. Honoring your agreements of neutrality and voluntary recognition with the Communications Workers of America to allow all workers at companies acquired by AT&T to join the union without management opposition or interference.

By taking these actions, I believe that AT&T can once again be proud of the role you play in ensuring a strong vibrant U.S. economy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Veasey', written over a horizontal line.

MARC A. VEASEY
Member of Congress